--- “Series of 1887” - 6 Cigars - BLACK - 345 x 12 mm ---

The catalogue lists the recess printed black six cigar “Series of 1887” strips as follows:

RG-378† - 6 cigars, black, perf 12, on horizontal mesh wove - 4 mm. ***red controls*** - **WANTED!**
RG-376 - 6 cigars, black, perf 12, on horizontal mesh wove - 4 mm. ***blue controls***

4th BABN Contract (1886-1892) John McKay records 41,760 *recess printed* by hand press copies of “6 Black Cigars” as delivered. This is his only entry for the strip.

4th BABN Contract 41,760 recess printed by hand press **000001** to **041760**

★**RG-376 TP** - 6 cigars, black, perforated 12, recess printed on horizontal mesh wove, without control numbering

★**RG-376 PP** - 6 cigars, an imperforate black plate proof, recess printed on heavy horizontal mesh wove

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The Budget of 1885 doubled the taxation on *Foreign leaf* cigars from $ 3.00 to $ 6.00 per pound, and on cigars made from *Domestic leaf* from $ 1.50 to $ 3.00 per pound, and smaller packages were introduced. The introduction of the ten cigar strip was possibly precipitated by the higher tax rate. The *Foreign leaf* cigar tax was raised to $ 7.00 per pound on packages of less than ten cigars. The production of the three and six cigar strips had hastened this legislation imposing a higher tax on packages smaller than ten cigars.

In 1891 this ‘small package’ tax was extended to include *Domestic Leaf* cigars at $ 3.50 per pound. The ‘Montreal’ imprint was placed in the sleevage at the top and at the bottom of the pane of strips.

--- the 55 mm. “Montreal” imprint - scanned at 200% scale - from the top sleevage ---

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--- “Series of 1887” - 6 Cigars - BLACK - 4th BABN Contract (1886-1892) ---

--- recess printed by hand press on horizontal mesh wove - 4 mm blue controls ---

--- RG-376 - perforated 12 - 345 x 12 mm - scanned at 40% scale ---

The collection ***does not contain*** a copy of the perforated **RG-378** with ***red control*** numbering. Is this a catalogue error, mistaking the red control numbered blue strip for the black strip? The red numbered strip, **RG-378**, would probably begin the control number sequence.

★**RG-376** - 6 cigars, black, perf 12, on horizontal mesh wove, with 4 mm. control **005101**,
the top inscription copy from a sheet - with the 55 mm. “Montreal” imprint

★**RG-376** - 6 cigars, black, perf 12, on horizontal mesh wove, with 4 mm. control **027740**

005101★	RG-376	6 cigars, black, perf 12, on horizontal mesh wove, the top copy from a sheet with the “Montreal” imprint
005104	RG-376	6 cigars, black, perf 12, on horizontal mesh wove
027218★	RG-376	6 cigars, black, perf 12, on horizontal mesh wove
027220	RG-376	6 cigars, black, perf 12, on horizontal mesh wove
027740★	RG-376	6 cigars, black, perf 12, on horizontal mesh wove
027744	RG-376 CP	6 cigars, black, perf 12, on horizontal mesh wove
027746★	RG-376 CP	6 cigars, black, perf 12, on horizontal mesh wove

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File path is [c:\ CR - STAMPS \ RG_STAMPS \ 1887 \ 6 cigars - black],
In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
Formatted for a HP CP 1525 Laser Jet,
October 15th 2013 - JBH